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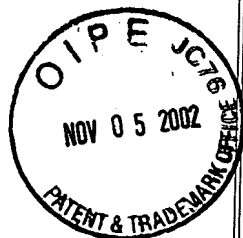
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Attorney Docket No. 8680-0001-00 (NEW)

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

(NEW)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Paul Stark et al.

Application No.: 09/488,103

Filed: January 20, 2000

For: Multiparticulate Bisoprolol
Formulation

) Group Art Unit: 1615

) Examiner: R. Joynes

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated September 10, 2002, which set an initial due date for response of December 10, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as shown in the attached Appendix, to appear as follows after amendment:

1. (ONCE AMENDED) A multiparticulate bisoprolol formulation for once-daily oral administration, said formulation comprising at least two particles comprising a core of bisoprolol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a polymeric coating, wherein following administration said formulation exhibits a lag in release, producing a bisoprolol plasma concentration of not more than about 1 ng/ml for at least about three hours, and thereafter provides a sustained release of bisoprolol that produces a therapeutic plasma concentration not later than about 12 hours following administration,

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